

FinCom Minutes 12/3/15

Present: Tom Busa, Rich Bowen, Steve Carluccio, Karen Dunn, Steve Steele, Elizabeth McClung, David Powell, Paul Mortenson, Ben Thomas, Victor Garofalo

Nov 19 minutes

Dave Powell motion to accept

Tom Busa second

7-0-2

- Model 2.3
- 2.5% to selectmen, all the boards
- 3.5% to schools
- Utilities increased 2%
- Road resurfacing up by 50K to 700K
- Schools guideline
- Set aside 150K for planning board
- Capital left at last year's amount
- CapEx met last night, discussed all the projects, they removed press box project, deferred the modulars 517832. Want more info to relate it to the current school project, are they double-counting?
- Paul Mortenson: with the modulars- it's still an open question. Don't know if we need them yet.
- Lane might be done in time; Davis may not need the extra space. Will have a better idea in February, to have it done by September 2017.
- Press box accessibility should be paid through revolving fund or otherwise.
- \$2,228,306 currently would be needed for Capital. 109K less than what is in there. (\$2,337,142)
- If not made accessible would be deemed unusable. \$46K. Matter of principle. Those who presented to the town should have given not left the cost of this to the town.
- Funded by Rec and Mudge Fund. Taissir and Jon Sills and Rick Reed would know.
- Tom Busa: move \$108836 off capital line item
- 662K being held in stabilization fund for the school projects
- From hotel quarterly excise: we received \$11,500
- We might lose the homeless at the hotel to find other housing
- 22 fewer families
- Out of district transportation, right now 250K for transport now might not need it.
- Over the next 3-6 months, going to a voucher program
- We don't need to share the funds 625K Health Insurance Trust Fund, so the plan is to transfer to the OPEB trust so we would meet the required amount. Will be a special article to move that money. The money is for future benefits of retirees.
- Snow deficit is at 3 year average
- Communication project was 1.7M. It is now 1.543M

- Concern about schools at 3.5% and selectmen's at 2.5%
- Right now schools have maintenance of service budget at 4.6% almost all of which is salary
- They are operating at a 6% budget on 75% of their budget
- No increase in headcount of students, but 40 FTE increase for staff in schools
- 3% increase across all budgets would cost another 90K
- Ben: school budget is growing over average, but we know we are going to have to fund them
- Ben: rental fees and rug replacement money. The money coming in is not as advertised. Could town centralize rental and make more money on it? Big investment in infrastructure, but no return. Part of the selling point was that we could make up the money by rental revenue. We should at least try. Centralize rentals and actively advertise we should be able to get money.
- Rich Bowen: on a website might help.
- Steve Steele: groups are being allowed to use field without a fee.
- Steve C: Bedford sports participants are paying fees without using the field.
- Meeting next week 12/10/15, then not until 1/14/16

Tom Busa: motion to adjourn

Paul Mortenson: second

9-0